

FIREFIGHTER

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

The class of Firefighter comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of fire department operations. Employees of this class primarily receive training in and perform tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, performing rescue work, providing emergency medical care, and maintaining fire department equipment, building, and grounds. Employees of this class receive specific instructions for most duties and are supervised by the shift captain. This class ranks directly below that of Fire Equipment Operator.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Trains for, performs, and maintains proficiency in firefighting and rescue tasks such as connecting, carrying, and operating hose lines, directing fire streams, forcible entry, ventilation, and using portable breathing apparatus or air packs. Utilizes ladders, lines, and other equipment and tools to aid in fighting fires or removing accident victims to safety. Searches smoke-filled rooms for trapped persons at fire scene and carries or assists victims. Maintains awareness of other firefighters' efforts and assists them to ensure safety and coordination. Assists Fire Equipment Operators in the positioning and stabilizing of fire apparatus. Drives fire apparatus and fire medic unit to and from the emergency scene and operates pumper when assigned.

Performs salvage tasks necessary to protect property, using covers, tarps, or other materials. Carries or removes burning items to reduce fire and smoke damage. Locates and extinguishes hidden fires and hot spots. Picks up water after fire is extinguished using appropriate methods. Constructs catch-alls to trap and dispose of water. Removes debris and charred waste. Shores up or tears down weak and dangerous structural components.

Responds to medical emergency calls such as heart attacks, births, poison ingestion, drug overdose, drownings, and other emergencies. Examines victims for signs of injury or medical alert tag and obtains a comprehensive drug history on the patient to determine the nature and extent of the injury and if special treatment is necessary. Administers first aid, treats

minor injuries, and administers medication to victims of fire and accidents either on the scene of an emergency or en route to the hospital. Provides advanced life support services to patients such as conducting and interpreting electrocardiograms, administering endotracheal intubations in airway, administering appropriate intravenous fluids, using defibrillators, and splinting. Observes and documents the effects of the medication administered to the individuals. Operates and interprets monitors and other equipment used to provide emergency medical care. Notifies dispatcher to call for additional emergency medical help when needed.

Studies and maintains proficiency in the procedures for special emergencies. Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols to identify flammable or hazardous materials. Acts to contain hazardous material spills or control spread. Locates and operates shut-off valves for gas, electricity, oil, and water in buildings to reduce hazard. Removes containers of flammable or hazardous materials at the fire scene under direction of a superior officer.

Reads and studies assigned materials including firefighting training materials, technical firefighting manuals, and keeps updated on information related to performance of work. Learns and maintains proficiency in firefighting operations including fire behavior, adverse conditions, firefighting formulas, structural components of buildings, purpose and use of equipment and tools, and safety procedures. Practices with apparatus and equipment under supervision to increase and maintain proficiency. Studies direct routes, structures of commercial and industrial buildings, location of streets, water mains, and hydrants in response area. Monitors and gathers information of conditions affecting station zone of response. Participates in discussions, demonstrations, drills, and physical workouts.

Cleans, dries, tests, inspects, and properly secures any assigned fire fighting and emergency medical care equipment such as fire apparatus, fire medic unit, communications equipment, hoses, hand tools, portable breathing apparatus, turn-out equipment, ladders, or related equipment. Conducts periodic tests of breathing apparatus and fills air cylinders. Performs periodic tests of apparatus pumping capacity and pressure. Inspects tools for damage or to determine if any tools are missing, and makes report. Maintains inventory of tools and equipment on apparatus using checklist or knowledge of equipment. Completes minor repairs to equipment and tools.

Completes the necessary tasks for the proper maintenance and function of the station and grounds. Cleans floors and windows, changes bed linens, and performs other minor maintenance duties in the station. Assists in preparing meals for firefighters and cleans kitchen area. Cuts grass and maintains lawn. Provides for the security of the station by locking station doors and securing valuable items.

Performs public relations duties such as calming excited citizens at emergency scene, receiving and responding to questions and complaints from the public, and providing information to the public concerning the work of the fire department. Receives telephone calls and provides necessary information or directions. Refers calls to appropriate personnel or agency. Assists visitors at the station. Conducts fire station tours and explains fire equipment and firefighting techniques to visiting public. Conducts fire drills in schools or businesses, prevention inspections and other fire prevention or fire inspection tasks or related duties. Works with local youth groups and other community groups, delivering lectures or demonstrations on fire prevention or fire safety.

Completes emergency medical records such as patient care records, records of activity, inventory records, and any forms, records, or reports as required.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements listed below must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Must have a high school diploma or a valid certificate of equivalency issued by a state department of education.

Must possess a valid driver's license.

Must not be less than eighteen (18) years of age.

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